

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims is provided for the Examiner's convenience, no amendments are made:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Previously Presented) An absorbent article comprising:  
an absorbent body,  
a liquid-permeable covering layer arranged over a first surface of the absorbent body, and  
a liquid-permeable liquid-transfer layer arranged between the absorbent body and the liquid-permeable covering layer, said liquid-permeable liquid-transfer layer being immediately adjacent said first surface of the absorbent body,  
wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises a nonwoven material with a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius greater than or equal to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and with a wetting angle of at least 120°, and  
wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises a fibrous layer with a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 105 to 325  $\mu\text{m}$ .
2. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius greater than or equal to 55  $\mu\text{m}$ .
3. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 2, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 55  $\mu\text{m}$  to 60  $\mu\text{m}$ .
4. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises fibers with a fiber fineness of at least 5 dtex.
5. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a basis weight of at most 15 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

6. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises a spunbond nonwoven.

7. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises a polyester wadding bonded with a binding agent.

8. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 115  $\mu\text{m}$  to 185  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 8, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 135  $\mu\text{m}$  to 155  $\mu\text{m}$ .

10. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 110 to 350  $\mu\text{m}$  which is more than 60% of the total pore volume.

11. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 10, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 120 to 230  $\mu\text{m}$  which is more than 40% of the total pore volume.

12. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 11, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 150 to 180  $\mu\text{m}$  which is more than 15% of the total pore volume.

13. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises fibers with a fiber fineness of from 6.7 to 11 dtex.

14. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a basis weight of from 10 gsm to 100 gsm, and a bulk of at least 15  $\text{cm}^3/\text{g}$  measured at a load of 0.1 kPa.

15. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum located at from 155  $\mu\text{m}$  to 165  $\mu\text{m}$  in combination with a cumulative liquid volume of 0.1  $\text{mm}^3/\text{mg}$  of sample or more in pores with radii smaller than or equal to 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

16. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the article comprises a liquid-impermeable covering layer located over a second surface on the absorbent body opposite the first surface, and in that the liquid-permeable covering layer and the liquid-impermeable covering layer together enclose the absorbent body.

17. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the first surface on the absorbent body defines a user-facing surface.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the absorbent body comprises one or more layers of material.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein said liquid-permeable liquid-transfer layer is immediately adjacent said liquid-permeable covering layer.